



North Carolina School Superintendents' Association

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June 27, 2019

Mr. Mark Johnson, State Superintendent
Office of the State Superintendent
6301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

Dear Mr. Johnson,

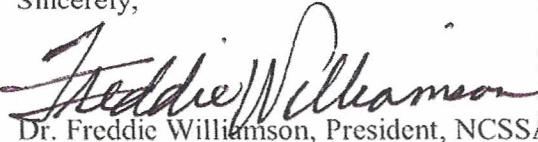
On behalf of the North Carolina School Superintendents' Association, we would like to thank you for your Read to Achieve update at the State Superintendent's quarterly meeting in Asheville on June 24. We also appreciated your question and answer session with superintendents following your presentation.

The Executive Board of the North Carolina School Superintendents' Association would like to ask that you request the General Assembly to delay the implementation of the new reading diagnostic tool for one year due to the short turnaround time in the teacher training schedule. A change in an assessment tool that has so much impact in the classroom would be a challenge, due to the late decision and announcement on June 7, 2019. In addition, the implementation schedule for teachers was not posted until June 18, 2019, at 6:15 PM after teachers began their summer break. Year-round schools begin on July 9, and requiring that those teachers be trained on the new assessment would not be very practical given the timeframe.

We understand that Session Law 2017-257, as amended by Session Law 2018-5, will need General Assembly approval to grant the delay in implementation of the new assessment system. We are asking that you make this request on our behalf.

I have attached a list of the NCSSA Executive Board members for your information should you wish to speak with any of our board members concerning this. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,


Dr. Freddie Williamson, President, NCSSA



Jack Hoke, Executive Director, NCSSA

Attachment